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Senate

The Senate was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, January 11, 2016, at 2 p.m.

House of Representatives

FRIDAY, JANUARY 8, 2016

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer: God of mercy, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

At the beginning of another day, we pray that Your divine providence guide this Nation and all nations, and every believer, each in his or her way.

In Your spirit enable the Members of this people's House to accomplish Your will by the faithful performance of their responsibilities. Help them to do meaningful work that might give them satisfaction in their sense of purpose.

Strengthen them when it is difficult to accept what cannot be avoided, and to endure with love and resignation the things that could cause them to grow weary or be overcome by despair.

In truth, we do not see the entire picture, nor how we are already united in Your presence among us. Help us all to trust in You, which we claim we already do.

May all that is done be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause one, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to five requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

VIOLATING THE CONSTITUTION IS NOT THE ANSWER

(Mr. MULLIN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MULLIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today because the Constitution is under attack by a President who has never respected the Second Amendment.

Gun ownership is a fundamental right of law-abiding Americans. The Supreme Court affirmed this right in 2010, and yet this week the President issued new executive actions that are unconstitutional and a clear abuse of power.

There is no question that we must stop senseless acts of violence, but violating the Constitution is not the answer. Criminals are criminals because they break the law. More laws won't keep guns out of criminals' hands.

Let's let law enforcement do their job and enforce the laws that we already have. Let's let law enforcement address the root cause of the violence. Let's look at what is causing it, like radicalism and mental illness.

I have no doubt that the President's latest actions will be challenged in court.

I will do everything in my power to protect Oklahoma's rights and the rights of all Americans.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois). The Chair will remind Members to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

While Members may criticize the President's policies or official actions, they may not engage in personal attacks.

FAIRNESS IN CLASS ACTION LITIGATION ACT

(Ms. SCHAKOWSKY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, last year, Volkswagen was caught defrauding its customers selling vehicles that emitted 40 times more pollution than is allowed by law in its so-called clean diesel models.

VW customers paid extra for vehicles they believed were both cleaner and better performing than other cars on the market, but that is not what they got. They have a right to join class action lawsuits to recoup their losses and hold VW accountable.

But the Fairness in Class Action Litigation Act, which we will consider

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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H179